

Application No. 09/944,581

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for his careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1-21 stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 16-18, and 20 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over McComb et al (*Using WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows*) in view of Shima (U.S. Patent No. 6,676,309). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In claim 1, Applicants recite a print driver user interface method for printing a document. The method includes receiving at the print driver a number corresponding to a plural number of copies of the document to be printed from a software application and receiving at the print driver at least one command relating to an operation to be performed on each of the plural number of copies of the document to be printed. The print driver displays a first feature to a user, offers the user one or more choices relating to printing copies of the document, and transfers control of printing the number of copies from the software application to the print driver.

Amended claim 1 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain an obviousness rejection under 35 USC § 103(a), the Examiner must show that a combination of the cited references teach or suggest all the limitations of the claim being rejected. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). The Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches or suggests all the limitations of amended claim 1. Specifically, for example, the Examiner has not shown a print driver user interface method for printing a document that includes receiving a number corresponding to a number of copies to be printed from a software application. The Examiner has cited an example from WordPerfect wherein a user enters a number of copies to be printed. However, a user is not an application. To clarify Applicants' intent, claim 1 has been amended to explicitly state that the application from which the print driver interface receives the number of copies to be made is a software application. Also,

Application No. 09/944,581

the Shima patent appears to disclose sending information from an application to a print driver so that a job may be printed. The Examiner has not shown where Shima discloses transferring control over a job to the print driver. For each of the preceding reasons, the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn and claim 1 should be allowed.

Further, claim 1 is directed toward a print driver user interface and not an application interface. Applicants have amended claim 1 to more clearly state that each of the listed steps of the method are performed at the print driver rather than the software application level.

Claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed as claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 depend from claim 1.

In claim 16, Applicants recite a print driver UI method for printing multiple copies of a document. The print driver method includes offering the user one or more choices relating to printing multiple copies of the document, transferring control of printing the multiple copies from a software application to the print driver, and reporting to the software application that one copy of the document will be printed.

Amended claim 16 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain an obviousness rejection under 35 USC § 103(a), the Examiner must show that a combination of the cited references teach or suggest all the limitations of the claim being rejected. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). Amended claim 16 now clearly recites, for example, that it is a method of printing multiple copies of a document. Therefore, the limitation of reporting to the software application that one copy of the document will be printed is nonobvious.

Claims 17, 18, and 20 should be allowed if claim 16 is allowed as claims 17, 18, and 20 depend from claim 16.

Claims 4-7, 10-15, 19, and 21 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over McComb et al (*Using WordPerfect 6.1 for Windows*) in view of Shima (U.S. Patent No. 6,676,309) and further in view of Fischer (U.S. Patent No. 6,762,852). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Application No. 09/944,581

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and includes all the limitations of claims 1, 2, and 3, as well as the additional limitation of permitting the user to select that there is a problem printing multiple copies.

Claim 4 should be allowed as the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness. In order to sustain an obviousness rejection under 35 USC § 103(a), the Examiner must show that a combination of the cited references teach or suggest all the limitations of the claim being rejected. In re Royka, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). The Examiner has failed to show that the combination of references teaches or suggests all the limitations of claim 4. Specifically, for example, the Examiner has not shown permitting the user to select that there is a problem printing multiple copies. The Examiner has cited an example from Fischer of displaying an error message to a user when no printer is available that is capable of all the print features selected by the user. Applicants message is not an error message. It is simply a feature that allows the user to select that there has been (or suspects there might be) a problem printing multiple copies. Claim 4 is clearly written to give the user the opportunity to select there has been a problem. The Examiner has not provided any reason why an error message would be equivalent to a message window allowing the user to select that there has been a specific problem. Further, claim 1, has been amended to more clearly recite that the method is performed at and by the print driver. Fischer's method is apparently performed by a higher order software application. For each of the preceding reasons, the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn and claim 4 should be allowed.

For claim 5, see the arguments with respect to claims 1 and 4. Claim 5, also recites informing the user that there may be a problem, not that there is a problem. Therefore, the Examiner has not established that the combination teaches all the features of claim 5.

Claims 6 and 7 include all the limitations of claim 1. Applicants have already argued that the Examiner has not shown that the combination of McComb and Shima disclose all the elements of claim 1. The Examiner has also not shown where Fischer addresses these deficiencies. Therefore, if claim 1 is allowed, claims 6 and 7 should be allowed.

Application No. 09/944,581

In claim 10, Applicants recite print driver UI method for printing copies of a document. The method includes receiving at the print driver a plural number corresponding to the number of copies to be printed from a software application, receiving at the print driver at least one command relating to an operation to be performed on each of the plural number of copies to be printed, and displaying a feature to a user informing the user that the software application may have a problem printing multiple copies.

Claim 10 should be allowed as the Examiner has not established that the cited combination of patents teach all the limitations of claim 10. See Applicants arguments with respect to claims 1, 4, and 5.

Claims 11-15 should be allowed if claim 10 is allowed as claims 11-15 depend from claim 10 and include all the limitations thereof.

Claim 19 should be allowed as the Examiner has not established that a combination of the references teaches all the elements of claim 19. For claim 19, see the arguments made with respect to claims 16 and 4, for example.

Claim 21 should be allowed as the Examiner has not established that a combination of the references teaches all the elements of claim 21. For claim 21, see the arguments made with respect to claims 1, 4, and 16, for example.

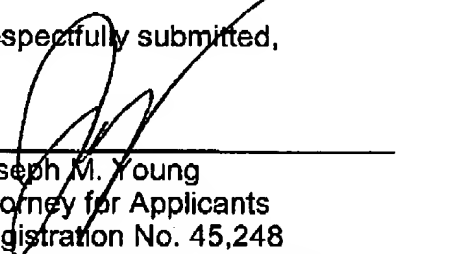
Conclusion

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment. However, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025. This also constitutes a request for any needed extension of time and authorization to charge all fees therefor to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

Application No. 09/944,581

A telephone interview is respectfully requested at the number listed below prior to any further Office Action, i.e., if the Examiner has any remaining questions or issues to address after this paper. The undersigned will be happy to discuss any further Examiner-proposed amendments as may be appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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